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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, MAY 19, 1944 No. 37

VILLAGE GUARDS OF THE N.W.F.

OFFICIAL WATCHERS OF OUR COASTS

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N.W.F.—H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, has been pleased to send us the following message in connection with the Second Anniversary of the inauguration of the National War Front in Madras :—

The National War Front is now entering on its third year. Starting as it did in the dark days of 1942, when the Japanese were almost at our gates, the Front had a hard task. But by energy, perseverance and faith in the final victory of the Allies, it has triumphed and it is no less due to its efforts than to the success of the Allied Armies, that defeatism has largely been eradicated in this Presidency.

Now that Victory is in sight I know that the Front will redouble its efforts till the last enemy has been routed and lasting peace won.

Arthur Hope.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT

A MADRAS newspaper recently devoted a somewhat churlish leader to the National War Front in Madras. That it did not speak very kindly of the Movement is neither here nor there. The point is that it discussed it at length and gave the article prominence. It may therefore be assumed that the Front which to-day enters on its third year has public significance—and that is more than many schemes and causes thrown up by the stress of war either acquire or deserve. Quite recently representatives of the National War Front in the Provinces and States of India met in conference. There were several additions to the delegate-list of the year before, and hardly any absentees; the Agenda sheet was strikingly comprehensive, covering not only the technical aspects of the science of propaganda, but many of the constitutional and economic issues of the day; and despite the varying impact of these on the local issues which each delegate represented, there was an atmosphere of sympathy, cohesion and purpose which would have done credit to older and more renowned parliaments.

BY what right, the sceptic might ask, and to what end do a couple of dozen men from all over India, in the large majority non-official, and uninteresting to the press photographer or social scribe, record opinion and frame policy about national and extra national affairs? Is the *raison d'etre* of the National War Front anything more than the devising of the semi-official publicity, and the accounting for tax-payers' money allocated to that end?

A Movement

WE tender the reply that the National War Front has shown itself to be a Movement, and not merely an artificial propaganda machine (of which, by the same token, there are several others such as those at the service of the Railway Board, the Ministry of Food, the Army Recruiting Directorate, or the Director of Military Intelligence). The National War Front is a Movement, in that it was formed by and for men of a crusading turn of mind who, at a time of peculiar stress, observed how untended was the spirit of a sub-continent in peril. They set out to motivate and release, in a million minds inhabited by ignorance, anxiety or misrepresentation, all the national pride and courage and faith that might make for Victory. They had two weapons with which to stir and maintain morale, personal example and propaganda; and since the latter demands expensive production and distribution machinery, the Movement suffered from being suspect among those who resent being made to think by any *ad hoc* agency; or by canny souls who like to measure value by the yardstick of cash returns.

THUS there were those who said that there was no need for the National War Front; there were those who said that it was born far too late to be of use; there were those who mistrusted its composition, and there were those who merely feared and therefore disliked it. But in two years of strenuous existence the National War Front appears to have outlived most of these objections; it helped powerfully to outface the haunting fear of defeat from abroad and, in 1942, an inflammatory internal disease in the body politic. It throve on its own merit. It has begun to become a link between the Government and the governed, interpreting the one to the other in the various rapid and bewildering departures forced on both by Military necessity. If it does not sway policy, it at least presents a picture upon which policy may be founded —the grievance of the ryot here, the trend of rumour there; the reactions of the regimented; and the anxieties and hopes of the patriotic. Amorphous and untried two years ago, the Front has become an acknowledged feature in India's war existence.

Future of the N.W.F.

THE critic however, even if thus far persuaded, may ask whether, now that the tide of war has turned and Allied victory is certain, now that morale in this country is conscious and confident, and knowledge of, and interest in, the concept of India at war is no longer a monopoly of the educated few, there is any further need for a National War Front. We dub this suggestion as not merely pawky parsimony but a propaganda-present to the Japanese. The European war may be nearing its end, but India's war may have hardly more than begun.

COMPLACENCY or temperamental reaction to military reverses, growling impatience or the apathy of war weariness, wastage of effort through fissiparous politics or selfish concentration on profit-making—these, and many another obstacle to Victory, all remain to be fought. The total of India's war effort may not yet qualify her to sit on equal terms at the Peace Conference with those powers whose contribution has been 100 per cent of their capacity. The National War Front can and must facilitate that qualification.

AND beyond that nearing horizon lies the unknown of the first difficult years of peace. Then, surely, there will be need for rulers and ruled to be interpreted to one another. A Front will indeed be needed, and a National Front at that, and we hazard the opinion that His Excellency the Leader of the Front in Madras will not worry overmuch, if the word 'War' be dropped from the designation of the Movement, as long as the Movement follows its own creed and his own example.

SALUTE

(On the Occasion of the Second Anniversary of the National War Front.)

(*By* R.G.)

Who now disdains to be enrolled,
In India's need, beside the rest,
To be in common danger bold
And in the common action blest
And with the nation's fire possessed ?

Him shall the full-grown nation spurn
And deem unworthy of a place
In ranks that after victory turn
To wipe from her ennobled face
Past tear and terror and disgrace.

The churl, the traitor and the knave,
The smooth-tongued fool, the glossy cheat,
The petty tyrant and his slave,
Sowers of sorrow and defeat--
These shall not sit in honour's seat.

But these who front the venomous foe
In arms, where arms alone will serve,
Or in their place both high and low
Their duty with delight observe
Nor from their true allegiance swerve,

These whom their threatened motherland
Has called to aid, and not in vain,
Who rallied shaken ranks to stand
And made the ways of victory plain
Till ancient glories glowed again,

Shall march together to the last,
A league by links unrusting bound,
A nation sloughing off all past
Division and dissension, sound
In heart and head and fit to found

A new Dominion of the Free,
A State magnanimous and just
Where men shall flourish humanly
And none shall grovel in the dust
But each man in his brother trust.

"A PROPHET IS NOT WITHOUT HONOUR. . . ."

[*A copy of this note from a well-known literary man to a very high official of his Province has been sent to us.*]

YOU might recall the oral report I gave you on my return from Madras about the excellent work done in that Province by the National War Front there. I suggested that we might usefully borrow the plan for our own benefit. You were good enough to suggest that I might send you a note on the subject. I do so with great pleasure.

My task is now made easier. At the recent meeting in Delhi of the Publicity Advisory Committee of the Information and Broadcasting Department of the Central Government, which was attended by many leaders of the National War Front besides prominent journalists and editors, Begum Shah Nawaz took the wind out of my sails by paying a very flattering tribute to the Madras work done by the National War Front. When my turn came, I could only endorse her observations.

While I had visited only one or two centres, her tour was more complete than mine could be. But she reached the same conclusions as mine. I was afraid that an Englishman at the head of the National War Front would spell disaster. My experience proved the baselessness of my fears. The Organization leaves nothing to be desired: and, as Begum Shaw Nawaz very pertinently remarked, the publicity campaign in Madras was about the best one could think of. To those I shall advert presently.

One very impressive aspect of the Madras work appears to me to be due to the concentrated enthusiasm. Here our work is generally diffused. We have our war exhibition in the Military District Headquarters far away from the scene of normal activity in the City. Our National War Front posters and other pictures are exhibited in the Secretariat. This place is also outside the other organizations work all right but unlike in Madras we have no co-ordination. In short, the City of Madras is the centre of all activity and radiates throughout the Province. Here, we have left even the city almost unorganized.

In the busiest thoroughfare in the City of Madras—Mount Road—the National War Front occupy the whole of a big building which houses all offices connected directly with war and war work. The Governor's War Purposes Fund, the War Loan Committee, the National Savings Committee, the National War Front, the War Exhibition, Women's work, the Grow More Food Campaign and other diverse organizations are housed in this building. The exhibition itself is such as to attract the passer by. My interest was aroused by the outside posters.

I might say that I selected one or two centres in the districts to study the kind of work they were doing. I was amazed to find that, while the food situation in Madras was as bad as in Bengal the people were taking things coolly and co-operating with the National War Front in respect of proper distribution and also Grow More Campaign. Thus, for instance, in Dindigul, the National War Front has its own cheap grain shop which sells to the poor people so much of rice needed by them at the bearest cost price. The sense of co-operation and orderliness was simply astonishing, even Congress-minded people helping in the matter. Not a village is left untouched. Their meetings to popularise the "Grow More Food" Slogan attracts thousands of people who respond willingly to appeal made to them. I had asked the Provincial Organizer to let have a few photographs of the wonderful work done by his organizations. When they come, I intend to publish them in *The Daily Gazette.*

When I was mentioning this matter to an English friend the other day before my departure for Delhi, he said that it was probably because Madrasis tasted a few Japanese bombs. I ventured to differ from him and I asked him what of Bengal which tasted quite a few hundreds of such bombs. I would attribute the National War Front success in Madras, to good organization and sincere effort.

There is no reason why we should not borrow the Madras example. We might collaborate all our activities and house their offices in a central place. We might even think of commandeering one wing of the Corporation building for the purpose and attract people to visit our offices. This City might be made the real Headquarters of such work. Our publicity too might be more regular. We might even issue a weekly bulletin full of news. This bulletin would pay its own way by advertisements. It seems to me that the city should lead the rest of the Province.

In view of the attempted invasion of India by Japan, I take the liberty of emphasising the urgency of giving effect to my suggestion. Begum Shah Nawaz was surprised to know that even the women and children of Madras were genuinely anti-Japanese and sang songs not in a dull manner but full of expressiveness which showed itself in their features while they spoke or sang.

ARMY TO REWARD VIGILANCE

The Indian Army is to make monetary rewards to those deserving of some recognition for certain outstanding public acts.

According to a new regulation payments of rewards may now be made for any specially prompt and meritorious action in connexion with fires, or information leading to the conviction of personnel accused of bribery and corruption.

Amounts up to Rs. 500 in any individual case will be sanctioned by the competent financial authority concerned, but rewards exceeding that sum, up to Rs. 1,000 will be sanctioned by General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Armies and Commands. Payments of rewards exceeding Rs. 1,000 will be submitted for the sanction of the Adjutant-General in India.

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ONE TO BACK

(From Our Sporting Correspondent.)

NEARLY mature enough to run in the classics (to-day is its third birthday and, after all, the Victory Cup is not very far away) the history of a colt called National War Front makes an interesting study.

Consider first its pedigree. It is by Courage out of Emergency, and a line through the sire, which shows such staunch performers as British Connexion and Good Faith, invites confidence in its staying powers. It's dam, however, has a less consistent history. The progeny of Surprise by that tear-away Aggression, Emergency was half-sister to that flighty filly Morale, whose brother Golden Opportunity more recently attracted the notice of a big Japanese stable. Minor inconsistencies can therefore be expected of National War Front, yet its actual performances merit recapitulation and justify the growing public confidence.

Foaled in a raging storm at the Government stud, National War Front took a little time to find its legs, specially as it was brought on rather fast while the going was hard. It's trainer however had to run something in the "C.D." stakes of that year, and so sent National War Front for some trial outings in mofussil meetings. At Bombay something went wrong, although National War Front got off well enough there; it ran gamely in the Punjab; the handicapper was unkind to it in Bihar, and the going in the United Provinces has never suited it. In the Central Provinces it had to carry a lot of weight but was well ridden into a respectable position.

In Madras, National War Front's first big test came when he ran against a couple of red-hot entries from the All-India Congress Committee stud, Quit-India and Arson. These two made the running for a short time, but faded out when National War Front came at them, and are most unlikely to challenge him again on level terms; at any rate they are not classics, and quite rightly so! Running in the Governor's colours National War Front is now a popular favourite in the South, though even its best friends know that it will not be able to give much weight to that old-stager Apathy. There is also a danger down here from an animal certainly not in the stud-book, another three year old called Get-Rich-Quick. A sleek, top-heavy colt resulting from a mis-mating of that disappointing mare Public Conscience with Wirepuller, it has a lot of followers, but I fancy National War Front will train on to gallop it off its legs next time out.

The year's prospects for the Madras stable are rosy. Just ahead we have the Food-and-Fuel Handicap and the Burma Plate, followed by the more remunerative Great Eastern Sweepstake, and National War Front's performance during this period will have considerable effect on its showing in the famous Victory Cup. The colt's stable is unlikely to make any changes in its Jockeys, and so National War Front's working campanions are likely to be that good littl'un Loyalty, the aged gelding Commonsense (which by the same token, makes too infrequent appearances) and Hope leading. A glance at the provincial Courses shows that they have been pretty well-tended but are still unresilient in parts, and will benefit from the attentions of those well-known provisioners—Victory Houses, Limited.

As we go to press there is a strong rumour that National War Front has already been entered in the Reconstruction Stakes. Weights and conditions for this important event will necessarily depend on the nearer results, but National War Front's appearance can be confidently expected.

TRICHUR NAIK WORKS IN ARAKAN REPAIR SHOP

Nine grease-smeared young Indian motor mechanics spend nearly every minute of daylight amid the noise and petrol charged atmosphere of a front-line M.T. repair shop in the Arakan.

Among them is the "second in command", Naik P. J. Peter from Trichur, South India. He is chief assistant to Warrant Officer W. T. Cruse from Hereford, England.

After serving in the Middle East, Cyprus, Iraq and Iran going together through thick and thin they are now in Burma, giving first aid to vehicles ranging from "a general's caravan to a red cap's motor-bike." Since arriving in the Arakan six months ago the men have finished over a thousand jobs.

"What these boys cannot do in a given time has got to be sopeless," says W./O. Cruse.

FOUGHT OFF JAPS WITH BARE HANDS

MADRAS SUBEDAR'S EXPLOIT ON IMPHAL FRONT

A Subedar of the Madras Regiment, challenging at three yards range a platoon of Japanese which he could not distinguish in the dark from our own troops, fought off with his bare hands the bayonet attacks of three of the enemy and escaped slightly wounded, writes an Indian Army Observer on the Imphal front.

Subedar Chidambaram, of Arani Jagir, North Arcot, Madras Province, was accompanied only by his orderly, Sepoy Vananayya, of Vadiannannad, Kistna District, Madras Province, who also had a miraculous escape. The incident occurred when a party of the enemy tried to penetrate our perimeter defences near Palel.

A small body of Japanese who lay hidden in the undergrowth at daybreak were hunted out by Gurkha troops who surrounded them and set fire to the scrub. A Japanese Captain and his orderly were trapped in the blaze and committed suicide by blowing themselves up with hand grenades.

Subedar Chidambaram, roused by shouting at about three o'clock in the morning, went off on a tour of his posts. Ten yards beyond his forward post on a saddle between a crest held by his men and positions manned by Gurkhas he saw a body of men forming up in threes. He challenged them and asked for the password but received the answer "Thik hai, Sahib."

A second afterwards three figures rushed towards him with bayonets. He fended off their thrusts with his hands and was then wounded and fell to the ground. His orderly was seized round the neck, his rifle snatched from him, gagged by a hand over his mouth and dragged away. But our posts were alert and opened fire. The Japanese broke and the Subedar was able to get back to his own lines.

Sepoy Vananayya said, "When the firing began the Japs who were trying to drag me away loosened their hold. I struggled free and threw myself sideways to get out of their reach. I fell off the footpath down the side of a ridge to the road below where Gurkhas picked me up and looked after me. I only had a twisted ankle."

THE SPIRIT THAT SUSTAINS

—*Specially drawn for the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW.

NATIONAL WAR FRONT QUICKSTEP

(By *R.G.*)

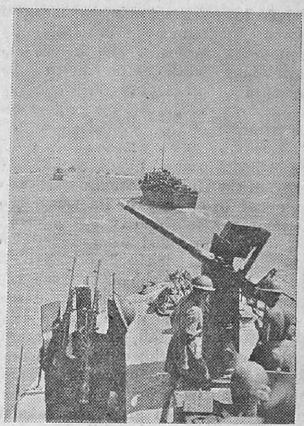
O I'm in debt
And You're in debt
And we're in debt
And they're in debt
We're all in debt
(Let's not forget)
To the Russians
And the British
And the Greeks
And the Poles
And the Dutch
And the stout Chinese
Who held the fort
For days and weeks
And months and years
And even on their knees
Fought a good fight
With toil and tears
Till the tyrants' plans
Fell around their ears.

We're all in debt,
Let's not forget,
And the debt's not paid
But mounting yet
With interest too,
No limit set,
For the British
And the Russians
And the Yanks
Are making
And using
Shining planes
And fighting to death
In ships and tanks.
Let's help with our cash
And our hands too and brains
Till the South Sea Bubble
Breaks with a splash
And Hitler Unlimited
Fails with a crash.

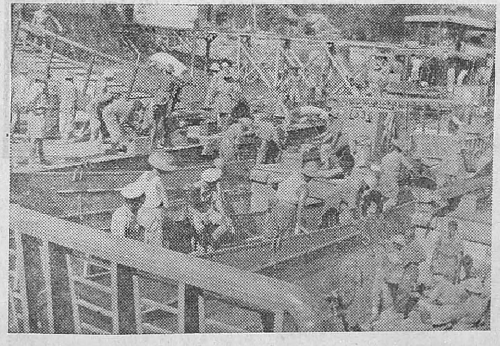
SEABORNE LANDINGS IN THE ARAKAN

It was recently revealed that Allied forces had carried out a series of successful seaborne raids on Japanese positions on the Mayu Peninsula. The landings were covered by ships of the Royal Indian Navy's Arakan Coastal Forces. This page contains photos describing the landings.

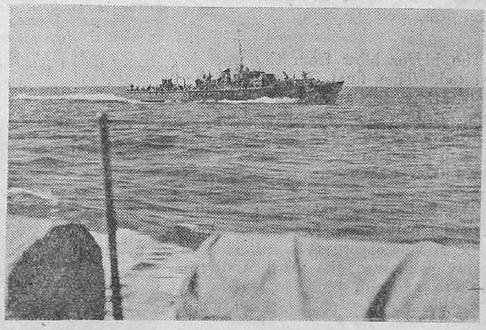
Capt. J. Ryland, R.I.N., Captain, Arakan Coastal Forces, watches the landings.



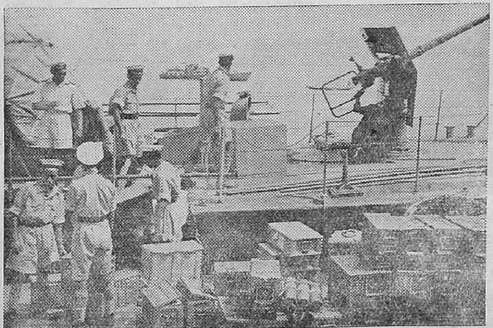
H.M.I. ships escort the landing craft to the objective.



Gurkhas put their equipment in the landing craft.



One of H.M.I. ships approaching enemy waters.



Ammunition is taken aboard at a forward base.

British troops returning from a raid, come alongside one of H.M.I. ships.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Prelude to Second Front—Gustav Line Breached

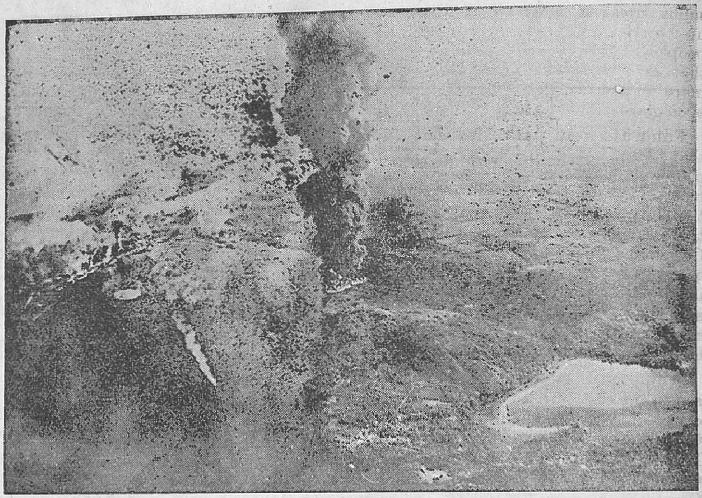
A great offensive has been launched in Italy. It seems to be a prelude to the Second Front. In an Order of the Day issued to his troops on the opening of this offensive, General SIR HAROLD ALEXANDER says: "Under the ever-increasing blows of the air forces of the United Nations, which are mounting every day in intensity, the German war machine is beginning to crumble. The Allied armed forces are now assembling for the final battles on sea, on land and in the air to crush the enemy once and for all. From the east and west, from the north and south, blows are about to fall, which will result in the final destruction of the Nazis and bring freedom once again to Europe and hasten peace for us all. To us, in Italy, has been given the honour to strike the first blow." The first blow has already brought about appreciable results. Great breaches have been made in Marshal KESSELRING's Gustav Line, most of which has now been destroyed.

The bigger blow from the west is awaited. The final stages in the preparations for an Allied campaign from Britain for the liberation of Europe seem to have been reached. Though critics in different parts of the world have at times shown considerable impatience in regard to the opening of the Second Front, the fact remains that the British people have all along been showing eagerness to strike at the enemy whatever the peril and the sacrifice involved.

* * *

The Second Front Idea—Britain's Resolve after Dunkirk

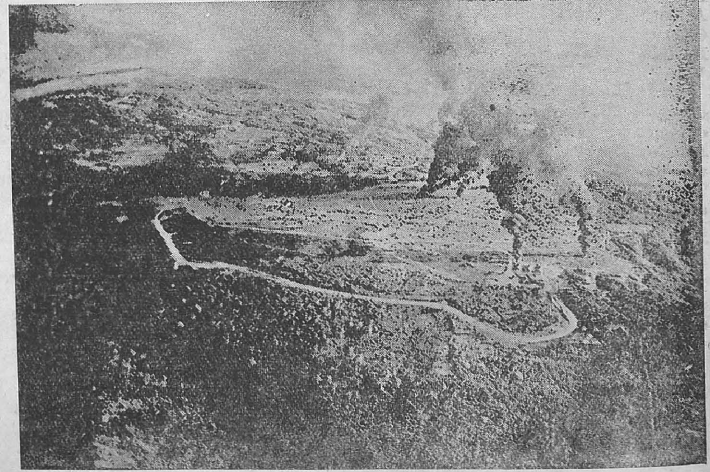
It may be recalled that, as early as 1940, the British people resolved to return to beat the Axis in Europe. The first British landings on the enemy-held coast of France, later called Commando raids, were made within a week or two of the evacuation from Dunkirk. The aggressive spirit of the British made manifest so early and in so dark an hour has now resulted in the assembly of great fleets and armies and air forces for a great offensive against the enemy who in 1940 seemed to have everything at his feet. The hard kernel of eventual attack lay within the shell of Britain's amazing defence of her own island. In the summer of 1940 tanks were shipped to WAVELL in Egypt. Bombers were built when fighter resources were strained to the utmost. Such were the proofs of the faith and determination which could plan ahead, in the words of Mr. CHURCHILL, "if necessary for years, and if necessary alone" (June 4, 1940). A fortnight later (June 18), Mr. CHURCHILL said, "HITLER knows that he will have to break us in this island or lose the



AIR ATTACK ON SABANG, SUMATRA.—Aerial picture taken by an American pilot during the raid by British and American carrier borne planes on Sab ng on 19th April 1944.

The aircraft-carriers were escorted by a powerful Allied N val Force under the command of Admiral Sir James Somerville, Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Fleet.

Photo shows: *burning oil tank with oil spreading out over he harbour, burning docks, warehouses and ships, and in the foreground a Japanese destroyer set on fire by fighters.*



Japanese planes burning fiercely on the aerodrome.

war. If we can stand up to him, all Europe may be free and the life of the world may move forward into broad sunlit uplands." And Britain stood up to HITLER! Now the enslaved peoples of Europe are eagerly awaiting the *Zero Hour* when the long nightmare of expectation will end in the open glare of the battle for liberation.

From the beginning, it was clear that the key-note to the British people's resistance to bombing and blockade was a far bigger one than the defence of their own island and their own lives. A month before Germany let loose her full power of aerial blitz, Mr. CHURCHILL said in what is considered to be one of his finest speeches, "We are fighting by ourselves alone, but we are not fighting for ourselves alone" (July 14, 1940).

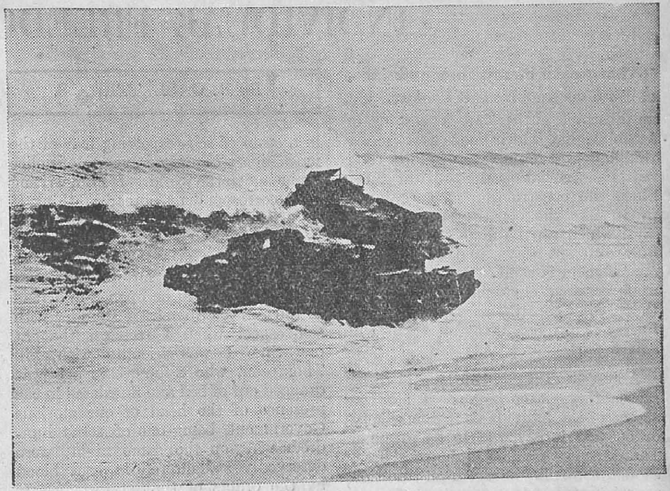
A year later, on June 12, 1941, representatives of the Governments of conquered Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Yugoslavia and General de Gaulle's Free French Organization met British and Dominion representatives in London and resolved to "continue this struggle against German or Italian oppression until victory is won."

* * *

Invasion Idea A year Older than Russian War

A new ally came in ten days later: Russia was attacked by HITLER on June 22 as a preliminary to a second attempt to invade Britain. Though this created a diversion of German strength, Britain did not heave a sigh of relief. MR. CHURCHILL said, "It is our danger and the danger of the United States." The British people welcomed the new ally, whose entry into the conflict gave it a new and more intense meaning. The Nazis who had hoped that Britain would welcome the attack on Bolshevik Russia and come to terms with them were disappointed. Mr. CHURCHILL said, "We will never parley. We will never negotiate with HITLER or any of his gang. We shall fight him by land, we shall fight him by sea, we shall fight him in the air until, with God's help, we will rid the earth of all those who have shadowed it and liberate the peoples from his yoke."

The idea of a return to the Continental battle-grounds was firmly embedded in the minds of British strategists and the British public for a whole year before the German attack on Russia. The course of events in Russia in 1941 and after intensified in Britain the popular clamour for a Second Front. The



Revolutionary to modern warfare, the DUKW, a $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck that is equally at home in water and on land, has greatly helped amphibious operations in the Pacific and Mediterranean theatres of war. Its advent has meant ship to inland dump operations without unloading and reloading at beaches. In company, two DUKWs head out to see from the beach, breaking through the powerful waves of the surf.

spirit of spontaneous comradeship with the Russian people quickly developed. There was sympathy for the terrible sufferings of the Russians at the hands of the invader, and there was great and undisguised admiration for the spirit and strategy of the great defensive fight put up by the Russians. The British also felt grateful for the falling off in the scale of German air raids on Britain and considered it as a war-gift from Russia. "The Russian danger is our danger," they said, and many felt that after HITLER succeeded in the East he would return to the West and invade Britain. Therefore they argued that Britain must immediately launch an attack on the continent while HITLER's forces were "fully engaged" in Russia. They cited the theory that the Germans were traditionally afraid of a war on two fronts and referred to GOERING's declaration in September 1939 that, "This time there is only one front and that is the salient point of this war." Right from the beginning the arguments about the Second Front were never on the point of "whether," but always on "when" and "where."

* * *

Arguments Against Continental Invasion

MR. CHURCHILL referred on September 30, 1941, to the question "whether we should invade the Continent of Europe in order to lift some weight off Russia."

(*Continued on page* 15.)

In the recent air attack on SABANG by British and American carrier-borne aircraft an American pilot was shot down into the sea and rescued by a British submarine which happened to be off shore. The rescue was made under intense gunfire from shore batteries. Lieut. DALE C. KLAHN of Laramie, Wyoming, the American pilot (Centre), *Lieut. Commander A.F COLLETT, D.S.C., R.N ; the Commanding officer of the submarine* (right); *with Captain M.C. IONIDES, R.N., after the submarine had returned safely to base.*

INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM*

By R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

I have said in my first talk that freedom is not a mere word and not an abstract entity but a system of actual rights which men exercise by thinking and doing things in their personal, social and political life. Since the construction of societies is rather like the construction of tribal lays, which can be done "in five and fifty different ways, and every single one of them is right," there are numerous possible combinations of rights that will constitute a satisfactory liberty; but not many of them will suit a particular society.

A system of rights can be said to be satisfactory either because it has the assent of the individuals in the society or because it is found to be rational. That is, men are free if they feel free, though they may accept from tradition a notion of freedom very imperfect to an outside observer; or they are free if they can act as they ought to, according to a concept of duty going beyond custom and tradition. Both the precepts of Tradition and the concept of duty vary widely from country to country, and freedom therefore does not and cannot mean exactly the same thing to the American, the German, the Russian, the Chinese, the Indian and the Englishman. It is not only Hitler's lies—so much more monstrous than Matilda's in Belloc's rhyme—that "make one gasp and stretch one's eyes," but also the notions developed by the German people of what constitutes perfect freedom. The contrast between the Englishman's and the German's feeling about the Nazi creed is brilliantly stated by E. C. Bentley in the preface to "Those Days."

NAZI CLAIM

"Credit is claimed by the Nazi regime for the material advantages conferred upon the people; attention is not directed to the price that has been and is being paid for them. Apart from such advantages, it has always been the correct cant among apologists for the terror to say that Hitler restored to the Germans their self-respect . . .
I may add here a brief imaginary sketch of myself as a self-respecting Englishman, in the Hitlerite acceptance of that term. I am so heartily grateful for the benefits showered upon me by an all-wise dictator that I hardly know where to begin enumerating them. I live in a state of self-respecting fear of the most highly organized system of police espionage in the world. If I am writing to a correspondent abroad, I think it only decent and self-respecting to include a few expressions of my pride in being governed as I am, because I know that my letters are, very properly, liable to be opened and read in the Black Cabinet. I shudder with self-respect when I recollect that at one time I was friendly with Bill Thompson, who a few years ago was dragged out of bed and murdered in the presence of the head of our glorious Government, being one of some hundreds who, on the same night, were deservedly slaughtered in cold blood by the orders of that statesman. It revolts me to think of those miserable days when I was allowed to know all that was happening in the world, instead of being told by our gracious Government what I am ordered to believe. I am devoted to my two sons, and it delights me to know that they are having a much better education preparation for life than I had myself. Our schools in my boyhood were well enough, but the curriculum nowadays is not so over-loaded; my Tommie and Frankie are encouraged to look upon books and all intellectual activity with contempt, and are taught very little beyond the essential things—that is to say, a frenzied hatred of Jews, and the contents of speeches made by members of our noble Government, which are studied as lessons in the class-room. My boys, I am proud to say, are so much in tune with the spirit of this wonderful time that they have learnt to regard me as a nonentity and an outsider, because I am, unfortunately, a peaceable sort of man, and am totally incapable of leaping at any moment upon a soap-box and tearing a political passion to tatters. I had looked forward to their going to the university where I studied in my youth; but my confidence in that institution was founded upon the reputation of its teaching staff, and now that unknown men have taken the places of those professors who mysteriously disappeared at one time or another, or went mad, or committed suicide, I am inclined to think that I over-rated the advantages of a university training. I do not, of course, complain of any of these things; on contrary they fill me with satisfaction; and I respect myself too much to incur the risk of being called upon some night and taken off to be tortured in a concentration camp."

Quite obviously the freedom that the Germans aspire to would not satisfy the English. Nor for that matter would the freedom designed for themselves by the Russians, the Chinese, or the peoples of India. The American notion of freedom is so much based on the English in the first instance that Englishmen understand it fairly well. But as Phyllis Bentley points out in her book "Here is America," there are marked differences.

IDEA DIFFERS

. . . Now this idea of freedom differs from the British notion. It is not that we like being ordered about; we don't; but what we absolutely demand and insist on and cannot do without is fair play, justice, in the order. If the order is necessary and just, we may grumble about it incessantly but we obey it carefully. Not so the American; and because of his distaste for orders he has a secret admiration for those who disobey them and get away with it, which the British entirely lack.

The English notion of freedom is one suited to a nation that has been called a nation of shop-keepers and has been alleged to be governed by the old school tie—a nation in which equality before the law, enterprise and leadership have all been cultivated.

A complete statement of the rights which go to an Englishman's freedom, how they came to be recognized and how they were asserted, established and revised, would be matter for several volumes. It is my purpose to mention those which I think most important and to add such brief comment as is appropriate in this place. In the present talk I shall cover two aspects of personal freedom and in the next the other points of liberty of the individual as distinct from liberty enjoyed by groups.

LIBERTY OF THE BODY

First there are the rights constituting the liberty of the body. When Englishmen sing that "they never never shall be slaves" they refer to a metaphorical slavery. But the English

* This is the second talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, on 12th May 1944 by MR. R. GALLETTI, I.C.S., in the series "The Concept of Freedom." The first talk was published in the *Madras War Review*, dated 21st April 1944.

were perhaps the very first people to say definitely that within their territory no man should be in physical bondage. Not only did chattel slavery of Englishmen disappear early in England compared with many parts of Europe; but serfdom also went earlier in England than in other parts of feudal Europe, which may have been accidental and due to the Black Death coming at a time of economic change; but was nevertheless a fact and important. Thereafter one Englishman could not command the bodily labour of another except by paying something for it, even if this something was too often inadequate and in times of stress the press-gang and the unjust judge might restore some of the features of slavery.

Not only was serfdom done away with. The arbitrary violence used by Governments in former times against men supposedly free was gradually abolished. King John was made in 1215 to guarantee that "no freeman shall be taken, imprisoned, dis-seized, outlawed, banished or in any way destroyed;" and though the promise was often enough violated, and in the Grand Remonstrance of 1841 the Commons alleged that even in the 17th century His Majesty's subjects were "oppressed by grievous fines, imprisonments, stigmatising, mutilations, whippings, pillories, gags, confinements, banishments" yet the English people did secure, and from the time of the Habeas Corpus Act of 1679 have maintained without interruption, the right of having no violence applied to them except according to the direction of law, which does not of course mean that law is impeccable, especially when legislatures become active. A. P. Herbert makes one of his Uncommon Law Judges say, in discussing whether Magna Carta is still law:

> "Again, it was argued before me that at least that portion of Chapter 29 still has effect which reads:
>
> > Nor will we proceed against a freeman, nor condemn him, but by lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land.
>
> But it was proved in evidence that in fact this method of condemning the freeman is the exception rather than the rule, and it was suggested that this portion of Magna Carta must be interpreted in the light of recent statutes, so that it reads:
>
> > Nor will we proceed against a freeman, nor condemn him, but by lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land, or Government departments, or Marketing Boards, or Impregnable Monopolies, or Trade Unions, or fussy Societies, or Licensing Magistrates, or officious policeman, or foolish regulations by a Clerk in the Home Office made and provided."

LORD MANSFIELD'S JUDGMENT

In 1777, Lord Mansfield in a great judgment extended to all, of whatever race or colour, who might be in England the right of physical freedom. In declaring the Negro James Somersett a free man, he said:

> "I am quite clear that the act of detaining a man as a slave can only be justified by the law of the country where the act is done . . . Then what ground is there for saying that the status of slavery is now recognized by the law of England? that trover will lie for a slave? that a slave market may be established in Smithfield? I care not for the supposed dicta of judges, however eminent, if they be contrary to all principle. The dicta cited were probably misunderstood; and at all events they are to be disregarded. Villainage, when it did exist in this country, differed in many particulars from West Indian slavery. The lord never could have thrown his villain into chains, sent him to the West Indies, and sold him there to work in a mine or in a cane-field. At any rate villainage has ceased in England, and it cannot be revived. The air of England has long been pure, too pure for a slave, and every man is free who breathes it. Every man who comes into England is entitled to the protection of English Law, whatever oppression he may heretofore have suffered and whatever may be the colour of his skin."

It was not very long—as time goes in national histories—before the same protection was extended to all the inhabitants of all the dominions of the British Crown. And to this day the English will not reckon as a free country one where men are exposed to arbitrary violence or can be disposed of at will by private or public masters. Physical freedom is perhaps only a small part of freedom, but it is what the mathematicians call "necessary though not a sufficient condition."

ANOTHER ELEMENT

There is another element of physical freedom, and a very important one. In fact some of the greatest struggles in English history have been over the assertion of this right—a man's right to his physical property, to do what he will with his own, and to be free from the danger of arbitrary confiscation and from taxation without his consent as well as from the risk of ordinary robbery and theft. It is to be remembered that England under Norman and Angevin kings settled down before her neighbours to orderly life and to a security which gave property some value in the eyes of its possessor. It is unlikely that the English are by nature greater lovers of property than other peoples. But they have had longer practice than others in cherishing and guarding under a satisfactory legal and police system their property in lands, houses, and moveables. The barons were able to assert the right of the people against the king even in the days of John; and from the time of the Parliament of 1254 till the time of the Long Parliament which defeated Charles I, the people themselves continued to fight unremittingly for freedom from anything like illegal exaction. The development of the common law and of equity, a sufficiency of statute law, a police efficient though not numerous, a judiciary trustworthy if not swift, have made the Englishman more secure in the possession of his property and more free in its disposal than most who live elsewhere.

But concerning this right, which is cardinal in the English system and thought by many to be essential for freedom of enterprise, there is a great and growing controversy; and the modern Englishman is by no means as clear as his great-grandfather about freedom from the intervention of the government in the use and abuse of property. The right was in many ways more restricted in the Middle Ages; and charters might be required of them to grant liberties and immunities that 19th century took for granted. Now again it is being recognized that the power of property, especially of intangible and incorporeal property, is a power to cause misery as well as to create prosperity, and the English are pretty well convinced that the right to cause misery is not among those included in the elements of freedom.

The next talk by Mr. R. Galletti in this series will be broadcast from the Madras Station of the All-India Radio on Saturday, June 9, 1944, at 9 p.m.

THE ARAKAN

THERE was a paragraph in the paper the other day which said that in the past four months the Arakan Coastal Forces of the Royal Indian Navy had steamed more than 30,000 miles on 43 separate missions in enemy waters.

Statistics have a way of being impressive and yet at the same time uninformative. So I'm going to have a shot at "illuminating" those figures about the Arakan Coastal Forces with some of my own experiences. I was present at half a dozen of those operations and was able to learn something of the job Coastal Forces are doing on the Burma front and the spirit in which they are tackling it.

In four recent months units of the Royal Indian Navy's Arakan Coastal Forces steamed more than 30,000 operational miles on 43 separate missions in enemy waters. Twenty-six thousand shells were fired at Japanese-held localities along 250 miles of the Burma coast.

A bombardment is planned. Commander R. R. W. Ashby, D.S.O., R.N.V.R., drafts the operational orders.

By AN R.I.N. OBSERVER

CONTINUOUSLY ON THE OFFENSIVE

The first thing I want to emphasize is that these little ships—they're not much more than a hundred feet in length—have been continuously on the offensive and, although they have stung the enemy into retaliating from the air, the Japanese have as yet made no attempt to bring their own Coastal Forces into action. Whatever the reason, they have allowed India's ships and sailors to establish complete moral ascendancy in Burma waters and to acquire experience and confidence which will serve them well when the fight gets tougher.

Ammunition and stores are taken aboard.

My first visit to enemy waters did not provide much excitement, but it helped me to get the "atmosphere" of Coastal Forces operations. Two ships were to carry out a reconnaissance in one of the many bays on the Burma coast and intercept any supply sampans the Japs might try to send northward under cover of darkness.

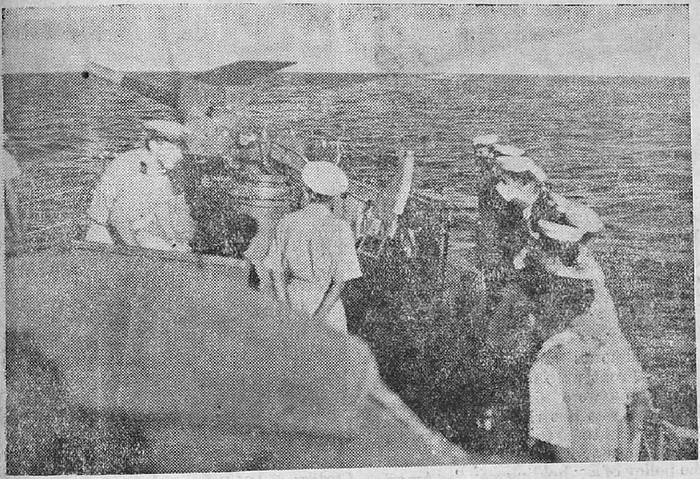
IN THE LION'S MOUTH

When we were well out to sea the captain called me into the wheelhouse to look at the chart. A pencil line showed the course we were following and it led right up to an island in the middle of the bay. There was no moon that night and the stars were our only guide. The captain took a "fix" on three stars. A tiny equilateral triangle appeared on the chart. The point of the pencil touched the middle of the triangle. "That's where we are now," he said quietly. I did not know which to admire more—his navigational skill, or his coolness. Here we were, practically in the lion's mouth. To north and south of us were two important enemy bases. And we were still sailing eastward.

The water was getting shallower. The coxswain started taking soundings, swinging a lead-line over the side and shouting out the depth every minute or so. The captain decided to reduce speed. A dark shadow straight ahead was the island we were making for.

At nine o'clock we dropped the anchor and stopped engines. We were very close to the shore, so close that we could hear the surf hissing on the beach and distinguish individual trees with the naked eye. It was very quiet. We talked in whispers. All the guns were manned. The officers carried loaded revolvers in their holsters. A mile away we could see a couple of Burmese fishing canoes, but we did not interfere with them. A dark shadow lying off the island attracted our attention. We stared at it through binoculars for a long time. It might be a ship, but we could not be sure. A midshipman volunteered to take two ratings with Bren guns in a dinghy to investigate. That young middy had no illusions about the Jap. He had been at school in Rangoon when Burma was invaded. He and his family were refugees two years ago. He joined the Navy when he got to India, his sister joined the

COASTAL FORCES



Gunners are "briefed" on the foc's'le of one of the ships.

Auxiliary Nursing Service, his mother is now in the W.A.C.(I.) and his younger brother is still at school, in Lucknow. Anyway, it turned out to be a false alarm. What we thought might be a ship was actually a clump of trees standing on a sand spit. At three o'clock in the morning we weighed anchor and shaped course for the base. For six hours we had lain in wait, hoping that the Japs would send a sampan or two in our direction. We had drawn a blank. But it's not always like that. Another night, further down the coast, our ships rammed and sank half a dozen country craft that the Japs were using to carry supplies to the garrison of a nearby island.

MUD VOLCANOES

On our return to base I transferred to another ship, the leader of a force that was going to bombard Jap positions on Ramree Island. The approaches to the objective were not exactly easy from the navigator's point of view. Mud volcanoes in this area frequently raise small islands which are liable to disappear suddenly, leaving dangerous uncharted shoals.

We did scrape the bottom once as we were approaching the target, but the bombardment began dead on time. I've seen a few Diwali celebrations in India, but the fireworks display that filled the next twenty minutes eclipsed them all. It was an impressive sight. The dim shapes moving steadily in line ahead, broadside on to the shore, their guns roaring and flashing; and the red stars of tracer shells sweeping out in graceful curves across the water.

The Japs sent a large formation of aircraft to look for us next morning. A Spitfire squadron was soon on their tails, however, and at least thirteen of the Jap planes failed to return to their base. None of our ships was hit, though bomb splinters from near misses wounded one of our crew, Petty Officer Allayar Khan. Although wounded, Allayar Khan kept his anti-aircraft gun blazing away until the enemy had broken off the attack. His gallantry was rewarded with the Distinguished Service Medal.

I've seen other bombardments since then. In one of them Japanese basha huts and storehouses along five miles of the Mayu Peninsula were set ablaze. Some of these bombardments have been carried out at the request of the Army: others have been undertaken on the strength of R.A.F. reconnaissance reports. All have been carefully planned and skilfully executed. Sometimes shore batteries open up and shells whistle overhead. Not once has a ship been hit in this way and the only direct hit the Japs scored in several air attacks was with a small bomb that bounced off the armour plate and exploded in the sea. No one was hurt.

A GREAT ORDEAL

The other day one of our ships was operating about 300 miles south of Akyab. For three hours she was attacked by bombers and then for half an hour a mixed force of bombers and fighter-bombers kept up a concerted attack from low level. Many bomb splinters and part of a bomb tail fell on the deck. Some of the crew received minor wounds, but the ship was so well handled that she escaped damage and came through her three-and-a-half hours' ordeal unscathed. These air attacks are an indication that the enemy doesn't like the nightly visitations of the little ships with a big punch.

There isn't time to give you a detailed account of all the operations, but I would like to add that Indian naval officers and ratings have more than once demonstrated that they are just as tough and courageous under fire as their brothers in the fighting line ashore. And that goes for all of them, whether they come from the Punjab or Madras, Bengal or Travancore, Bombay or the U.P. Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Christians and Parsees live and fight side by side.

—*A talk broadcast from A.I.R., Delhi.*

Action station as Japanese bombers try to retaliate next morning.

(Continued from page 11.)

But, it was not possible or feasible to contemplate a Continental Invasion at that time for a number of reasons. First of all, it was highly necessary to hold Britain at any cost as the war's most vital base. Secondly, it was important that the Suez Canal and the Middle East should be held in Allied hands in the interests of both Britain and Russia. A third reason was that Britain's shipping resources were inadequate to cope with the responsibilities of a large-scale offensive. Lastly, it was clear that unless Britain had decisive air superiority over Germany it would be foolish to undertake an invasion.

Over and above all this was the realisation that a Continental Invasion, if attempted, should succeed. For failure would be more disastrous both to Britain and Russia than postponement of the invasion. Further, preparation for it would involve the discontinuance of much valuable equipment and supplies which were being sent to Russia, and which were put to such excellent use against HITLER's hordes.

There were also two fallacious assumptions in the demand for a Second Front. Whatever may be the traditional German idea of fighting on two fronts, the fact remains that HITLER had not shrunk from opening new fronts in more than one direction. The other assumption that deserved to be corrected was that HITLER was fully engaged in Russia, and all that was necessary was to attack him in the rear from the west.

* * *

Another Ally—Mr. Churchill's Prophecy Comes True

In December 1941, a new and potentially powerful ally entered the field. Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour brought the United States into the war. After the evacuation of Dunkirk, Mr. CHURCHILL prophetically announced (June 4, 1940) that Britain and the Commonwealth would "carry on the struggle until, in God's good time, a new world with all its power and might steps forth to the liberation and rescue of the old." In April 1942, General MARSHALL arrived in Britain, and an Anglo-American fighting combination began. The R.A.F. raids over Western Europe began to assume the dimensions of a big offensive. Again, the advocates of the Second Front idea came to the fore and began brisk canvassing. But

SKILLED INDIAN ELECTRICIAN AIDS AMERICAN AIRMEN.—Thirty years' experience as an electrician for industrial firms in India has enabled Mr. E. J. Charles, shown explaining a testing device to a United States Army Corporal, to speed up the winding of essential wire coils as much as ten times a day.

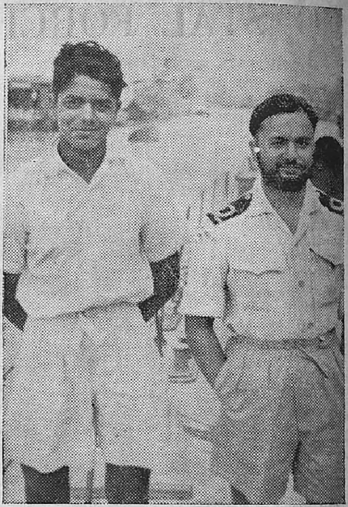
the arguments against opening a Second Front were even stronger then than they were six months before. The time was not ripe. For essential supplies had to go to Russia and Egypt, and in the Far East the Allies followed the policy of a "holding war." America's great strength was not yet fully developed on a war basis.

* * *

Tobruk to Teheran—Zero Hour Approaching

Tobruk fell in June 1942. Mr. CHURCHILL was then in America, conferring with President ROOSEVELT on the question of Second Front and other matters. The plan to drive out the Axis from Africa was chalked out at this conference. GOEBBELS continued to ridicule the Second Front, but August was the last month of Axis rejoicings. For from then on the Allies began to move on all fronts. In June the Anglo-Soviet Treaty was signed, and a full understanding was reached between Britain, United States and Russia "with regard to the urgent tasks of creating a Second Front in Europe in 1942." Stalingrad and the Caucasus were saved. The joint Anglo-American landings in North Africa from the Atlantic and the Mediterranean were the necessary preludes to the landings on European soil, in Sicily and then in Italy. The next step was the Teheran Conference at the end of 1943, at which the Second Front plan was fully resolved upon.

The German-controlled Paris Radio quoted a "high ranking German officer" as saying that the Zero Hour in the west is approaching and that Allied invasion preparations are almost completed. The Officer observed, "There is a likelihood that the outcome of the war will be decided in the west this summer."



PERSONALITIES IN THE ARAKAN COASTAL FORCES.—Midshipman M. G. Deodhar, R.I.N.V.R. (Central Provinces) and Sub-Lieut. R. R. M. Rao, R.I.N.V.R. (Madras), two Indian officers serving in one of H. M. I. ships in the Arakan.

Three Indian ratings on active service on the Arakan Front. Left to right Officer's Cook P. Ramaswami (Madras), Chief Petty Officer R. S. Mathieu (Singapore) and Leading Seaman K. Hussain (Punjabi).

This realisation has created greater uneasiness in Axis quarters than anything that has happened so far.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

9TH MAY.—Fifteen fast German and Japanese blockade runners have been sunk declared Lord Selbourne, Minister for Economic Warfare, in the Lords to-day.

Leverkusen, Osnabruck were attacked by Allied bombers. Two thousand aircraft Partook in the days' offensive.

The Dominion Prime Ministers continued a thorough study of the economic structure of the British Commonwealth of Nations, with special emphasis upon immediate post-war demands.

10TH MAY.—Mr. Churchill gave the Commons details of the aid given by Britain and the Empire to the Soviet Union.

Allied aircraft bombed Berlin and Luxtemburg.

11TH MAY.—British bombers last night attacked Ludwigshafen.

British light naval forces torpedoed an Axis armed trawler and damaged two other trawlers.

The Canadian Premier, Mr. Mackenzie King, addressed the members of the Parliament on Britain and the Empire.

General Eisenhower has reached agreements with the Allied Governments in exile for the speediest possible handing over of authority to the liberated nations of Western Europe.

12TH MAY.—The number of German and Italian aircraft destroyed in the air by Britain, American and other Allied forces since the beginning of the war is about 26,000 declared the Air Minister, Sir Archibald Sinclair, in the Commons. This excluded aircraft destroyed by the Soviet and on the ground.

German oilplants at Merseburg, Lutzkendorf and other places were bombed by Allied aircraft.

The United States, Britain and Russia have issued a virtual ultimatum to Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Finland that they must decide now whether they intend to go down in utter defeat with Germany.

13TH MAY.—Mr. Winston Churchill with Field Marshal Smuts, Mr. Mackenzie King and the Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Godfrey Huggins, paid a lightning visit to British Invasion Units yesterday.

14TH MAY.—Allied bombers attacked yesterday Tutow, Osnabruck, Stettin and other places in Germany.

It is revealed that His Majesty the King has inspected the Home Fleet. In four crowded days he has visited 14 different ships.

15TH MAY.—There was considerable enemy air activity over Britain last night and this morning. Thirteen German aircrafts were destroyed.

It is reported that there is disagreement between Marshal Rommel and General Von Rundstedt, Commander-in-Chief of Western Europe.

Last night Mosquitoes bombed Cologne.

16TH MAY.—The Conference of Dominion Prime Ministers has ended. The last meeting was held to-day.

United Nations Information Organization known as *Unio* has been set up in London.

Nearly 14,000 churches, monasteries, convents, and other ecclesiastical buildings have suffered varying degrees of damage in German raids on Britain and North Ireland according to official figures published yesterday.

Bombs were dropped at five south coast towns last night.

Last night R.A.F. Mosquitoes attacked Ludwigschafen and targets in North-west Germany.

Field Marshal Karl Von Runstedt has been appointed Chief of the German Anti-Invasion Forces. Field Marshals Rommel and Blaskowitz will be made Chiefs of Army Groups and Field Marshal Hugo Sperrie, Commander of the Air Force. Among the leaders are Admiral Ranke and Panzer General Von Schweppenburg.

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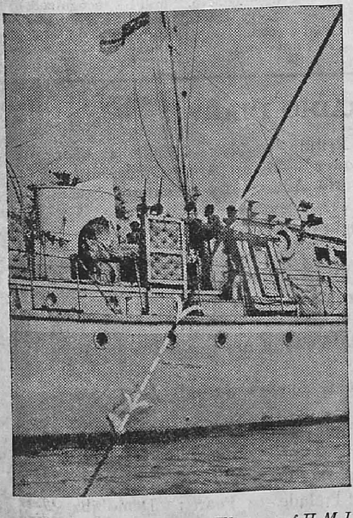

A LUCKY ESCAPE.—When one of H.M.I. ships was operating off the Burma coast recently she was attacked by Japanese aircraft. A small bomb struck the armour plate on the starboard side of the bridge and was deflected through the upper deck, via the engine room and through the hull, to burst harmlessly in the sea. No one was hurt. Arrows show track of the bomb.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

9TH MAY.—"The Allies continued to hold the upperhand in U-boat warfare during April" says the joint statement issued by President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill.

10TH MAY.—President Roosevelt has nominated Mr. James Forrestal to be Navy Secretary following the death of Colonel Frank Knox.

President Roosevelt to-day asked Congress for a new appropriation for the U.S. army totalling 15,676,652,700 dollars.

11TH MAY.—Two U-boats were destroyed by the frigate H.M.S. Spey in North Atlantic recently, it is revealed.

12TH MAY.—It is learnt that General Mark Clark, Commander of the Fifth Army in Italy, recently came secretly to United States and conferred with President Roosevelt, General George Marshall, U.S. Chief of Staff, and other high army officials.

More than two million women in United States have been trained by special courses for essential war jobs, announced the United States War Manpower Commission.

The United States House of Representatives to-day agreed to the Senate's version of Lease-Lend Extension Bill.

14TH MAY.—The United States Manpower Commission announced that more than 74,000 veterans of this war were placed in civilian jobs in February and March through the United States Employment Service.

16TH MAY.—The United States Ambassador in Britain, Mr. John G. Winant has returned to Washington for consultation with Mr. Cordell Hull and President Roosevelt. Mr. Averoll Harriman, United States Ambassador at Moscow, is also in Washington for consultations.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

9TH MAY.—Allied operations to clear the enemy from the vicinity of Kohima continued. In all sectors around the Imphal Plain Allies have obtained local successes.

10TH MAY.—In the Kohima area, Allied troops have continued their operations against Japanese posts in the outskirts of Kohima. North of Imphal Allied advance made some headway.

11TH MAY.—East of Mogaung Valley, Chinese troops have occupied two more villages. In the neighbourhood of Kohima there was no major activity. North of Imphal, in the Iril Valley Allied troops captured a position.

12TH MAY.—Operations to clear the enemy from strong positions in the hills on the southern outskirts of Kohima have made initial progress.

13TH MAY.—The Allies have maintained a continuous offensive around Kohima. North of Imphal Plain Allied patrols inflicted casualties on the enemy. Allied troops penetrated the enemy's perimeter defences at Tiangzup.

14TH MAY.—Allied forces continued their advance on both sides of the Mogaung river.

15TH MAY.—East of the Mogaung river Chinese troops have captured Tarongyang. South-west of Kohima mopping up operations continued. North of Imphal Allied patrols maintained their pressure.

16TH MAY.—In the Kohima area Allied troops advancing from the Deputy Commissioner's bungalow, reached the Treasury Hill. Battle of Kohima Ridge has ended. North of Imphal, in the neighbourhood of Kanglatongbi Allied operations are proceeding.

* * *

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

9TH MAY.—The battle of Sebastapol has developed into a hand-to-hand struggle at the gates of the city.

10TH MAY.—The Russians have captured Sebastapol. The whole of Crimea has been completely liberated.

11TH MAY.—On the bridgehead of the right bank of the Dniester, south-west of Tiraspol Russian troops were engaged in repelling enemy attacks.

12TH MAY.—Twenty thousand Germans were killed in the area of Sebastapol and over 24,000 prisoners were taken. On the bridgehead on the right bank of Dniester, north-west of Tiraspol, Soviet troops repulsed repeated enemy attacks.

13TH MAY.—The Germans lost heavily in their new Spoiling attack against the Red Army's Lower Dniester bridgehead.

14TH MAY.—Lull on land front continues; there was Soviet air activity over enemy positions.

15TH MAY.—Soviet aircraft attacked the railway junctions of Rawa-Russkaya, Styj and Donitzs.

16TH MAY.—Soviet planes bombed Polotsk.

* * *

ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

9TH MAY.—In the mountains sector of the main front, Allied troops followed up withdrawal of the enemy south of Monte Maiella. Other sectors of the front were generally quiet.

10TH MAY.—The entire front was generally quiet. Allied troops have occupied Palena. The Italian military Commander of Rome, General Rollo, was shot dead yesterday.

11TH MAY.—Patrols were active on all fronts.

12TH MAY.—The Allies have launched a major new offensive in Italy by starting an attack against the Gustav Line at 23·00 hours on May 11. The Allies have advanced one mile and taken several enemy positions.

13TH MAY.—Allied heavy bombers today cut the Brenner Pass Railway line. Allied troops have captured the village of San Angelo on Gari river. In the Liri valley Allied troops have crossed the Rapido river on a 6,000 to 7,000 yard front. San Sebastino and the dominating hill have been occupied by the Allied forces.

14TH MAY.—The attack of the Fifth and Eighth Armies against Gustav line is making progress. The town of Castel Forte has been captured.

15TH MAY.—More progress has been made by the Allied armies in Italy in their attack on the Gustav line. Eighth Army troops in the Liri valley have penetrated deeper into the enemy defences. French troops of the Fifth Army captured the hill features Monte Mayo, San Ambrogio, Valle Maio and Ausomia. American troops have also advanced. Hard fighting continues along the whole front.

16TH MAY.—Allied armies in Italy have maintained the impetus of their attacks against the southern sector of the Gustav line. American troops captured Spigno town.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

9TH MAY.—Nantes, Rennes, Tours, Salbris and other places in France were attacked by the Allied bombers. Military objectives in Belgium were also hit.

10TH MAY.—More than 4,000 Allied planes yesterday made the greatest pre-invasion assault on Cross-Channel objectives. Major assaults were made on over a score of targets in France, Belgium and Holland.

Bucharest was bombed this morning.

11TH MAY.—Last night Allied planes attacked Lens and Lille in France and Ghent and Courtrai in Belgium. Budapest was heavily bombed.

12TH MAY.—Allied aircraft attacked key-points in France and Belgium, Boulogne and Louvain.

13TH MAY.—Tourcoing in North France was bombed.

14TH MAY.—Allied bombers military objectives in France and low countries.

15TH MAY.—The French Consultative Assembly by unanimous vote to-day moved that the French Committee of National Liberation assume the title of "Provisional Government of the French Republic."

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THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

9TH MAY.—Mr. Dingle Foot, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Economic Warfare, declared that representations to the Turkish Government to cease exports of valuable materials to Germany have been made and that the Turkish Government's reply was favourable.

11TH MAY.—German News Agency says: "In view of the Turkish Government's stoppage of chrome delivery to Germany, the German Ambassador, Von Papen, has handed over to the Turkish Government a statement issued by his Government."

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THE FAR EAST

9TH MAY.—Cape Hoskins aerodrome in New Britain has been occupied by the Americans.

It is announced that Admirals Nimitz, Halsey and King met in San Francisco last week-end for a conference offering full opportunity for planning still heavier blows against the Japanese.

Japs captured Tengfeng in China.

10TH MAY.—Allies destroyers attacked Japanese positions on the Shortland Islands.

11TH MAY.—It is announced that the Americans bombed Ponape and remaining Jap positions in the Marshall Islands.

12TH MAY.—It is reported that Allied planes attacked Kusaie Island and Murrilo Harbour on Wednesday.

A Navy Communiqué says that American submarines have sunk 14 more Jap ships in the Pacific. This brings the total of Jap ships sunk in these waters to 558.

13TH MAY.—Allied bombers bombed Kehili and Bonis airfields in Bougainville.

14TH MAY.—Allied bombers raided Ponfoie airfield in Timor. American bombers attacked Nauru Island on May 12. Enemy held position in Marshall Islands were also bombed.

The Japanese have broken into the city of Loyang in China, at three points.

The Jap Premier General Hideki Tojo in a broadcast talk reviewed the war situation.

15TH MAY.—Allied bombers raided Jap bases on the northern coast of New Guinea.

The Chinese have broken the Jap hold on the Peiping-Hankow Railway, recapturing Suipang.

Three soldiers were returning to camp after a very good evening in the local town.

From the darkness came the challenge.

"Halt! Who goes there ?"

"Friends," said the three.

"Advance, No. 1, and be recognized," ordered the guard. No. 1 did so. Then the guard spoke again:—

"Advance, No. 2 and be recognized."

"Shorry, chum," came the reply with a loud hiccough. "If I advance—hic—No. 3 will fall down."

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY

MAY 19.—MADRAS—9-00 p.m. "Britain to-day: People at War: Mobilization of Man Power"—By an Army Officer.

„ 19.—MADRAS—9-45 p.m. World Affairs—By Wickham Steed: B.B.C. Relay.

„ 20.—MADRAS—9-00 p.m. Fighting Forces.

„ 22.—MADRAS—9-00 p.m. "The Shadow of the Rising Sun: North East Indies"—By Dr. Hamid Ali.

„ 22.—MADRAS—9-45 p.m. Problems of the New India: Relayed from Delhi.

„ 24.—MADRAS—9-45 p.m. The Voice of America: Relayed from Delhi.

„ 25.—MADRAS—9-00 p.m. The Common Cause—By Dr. C. Achutha Menon.

„ 26.—MADRAS—9-45 p.m. World Affairs—By Wickham Steed: B.B.C. Relay.

„ 27.—MADRAS—9-00 p.m. Fighting Forces.

„ 29.—MADRAS—9-00 p.m. "Prelude to Peace: Demobilization."

„ 31.—MADRAS—9-45 p.m. The Voice of America: Relayed from Delhi.

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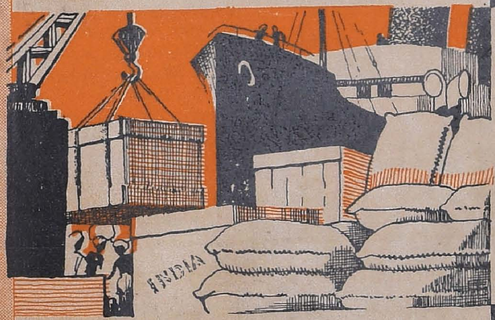
1 **THE hoarder sits among his stocks and thinks of ever growing profits**

2 **THE people of his village are turned away hungry**



3 **THE food ships from Allied Countries arrive**

4 **THE hoarder is forced to sell at a loss or see his stock deteriorate and perish**

CRIME DOES NOT PAY!

The hoarder counts on profit from the hunger of his countrymen, but he is the loser in the end

DEFENCE AND DEFIANCE